



Friends of the Environment Science Fair November 16th, 2017 Theme: Exploring the Value of Marine Resources

Highlighting Last Years Winners:

Lower Primary

- 1st - Hope Town Primary
- 2nd - Angels Academy
- 3rd - Treasure Cay Primary

Upper Primary:

- 1st - Hope Town Primary
- 2nd - Amy Roberts Primary
- 3rd - Man O War Primary

Lower Secondary

- 1st - Abaco Central High
- 2nd - Forest Heights Academy
- 3rd - Agape Christian School

Upper Secondary

- 1st - Long Bay School
- 2nd - Abaco Central High
- 3rd - Forest Heights Academy

Background

The Bahamas is often touted as the land of “sun, sand, and sea”, and pictures of our environment are plastered all over international marketing campaigns. Yet, what is the true value of our environment? Does the public understand?

Guide and encourage your students to delve into the natural, social, and economic benefits of Bahamian marine resources. We hope that participants will gain a broader understanding of, and a connection to, marine resources in the islands that we call home. The topic may be investigated in a broad sense, or by researching a particular marine resource or consumption issue. Encourage students to keep their minds open.

Projects must be based on scientific investigations, an experiment or surveys, including environmental and/or social perspectives. All information outlining how the project was done, key findings and conclusions, should be included in a poster presentation and other media formats as you desire. We will also be looking for an “action” component in each project that demonstrates student participation in solutions or proposed “next steps” for increasing public understanding of the value of Abaco’s marine resources.

**If high schools do not use the scientific method the project will be placed in the Non-competitive/Display category.

Judging criteria: Science Fair 2017

There are Four categories to be judged. Each judge should complete all of the criteria. Scores are a number from 1-10, 10 is the highest, 1 is the lowest.

Categories:

Originality:

Projects should have original information and not just copy and paste from other sources not made by schools (e.g. brochures, internet). Students should be able to demonstrate an original thought process.

Content:

Information should be consistent with chosen topic and relate to overall theme.

For Secondary Schools: Headings should relate to the scientific method (abstract, introduction, hypothesis, methods, discussion/conclusion including sources of error and methods for improvement).

For primary schools: Headings should reflect what you did, how you did it, and what you found out (do not need to use those phrases verbatim).

Presentation/Appearance:

Project should be well presented. If hand written, it should be legible. Projects should be neat and tidy, and follow a logical order. Projects which are eye-catching will score higher.

Student Explanation:

Students should be able to answer questions posed to them by judges and display that they have an overall knowledge of the project.

**Specific to this year's theme, judges will be looking for students to give suggestions of how their findings can be used to raise awareness in the community.

***In the case of a tie, the project scoring higher on student explanation will be the winner.

Rules

Each school is allowed one entry per category. Additional entries will be placed in the display category and will not be judged.

Prizes will be awarded to the winning school and not to individual students.

Here are some basic terms related to the theme:

Marine - relating to the marine environment, i.e. salty ecosystems such as coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, and open ocean.

Resource - items or materials of value belonging to or found in a certain place.

Natural Resource - a resource obtained from the environment for human benefit.

Renewable resource - A natural resource that can be replenished when it is consumed (e.g. solar power, agricultural products, sustainable fisheries). Note that not all renewable resources can be used indefinitely by humans, some have to be carefully managed.

Non-renewable resource - once the resource is consumed it will never return (e.g. fossil fuels)

Sustainable - when a resource is consumed in a way that there is always some left for the future.

Hot topics: Blue economy, green economy, sustainable fisheries, eco-tourism